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The Hongkong Telegraph

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December 13, 1917, Temperature 6 a.m. 65 2 p.m. 68
Humidity 70 75 56

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1917.

四拜禮 號三十月二十年十英港香

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-GERMAN ARMISTICE.

Processions in Petrograd.

London, December 12.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd, writing on December 11, says that the incendiary manifesto of the Military Revolutionary Committee, cabled last night, was withdrawn at the last moment. A number of processions celebrating the opening of the Constituent Assembly converged at the Tauride Palace, outside of which there was a succession of extempore meetings, but till four o'clock in the afternoon there were no disorders.

A Decisive Split.

London, December 12.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd states that the Bolshevik Agency announces the establishment of Revolutionary Courts throughout Russia, consisting of soldiers, sailors, workmen and workwomen made eligible by local Soviets. A decisive split has occurred in the Congress of the Revolutionary Socialists between the left and right groups. The Commissary of Foreign Affairs has issued a decree dismissing all Russian diplomats abroad who have failed to notify their consent to serve under the Soviets.

Friction Between Bolsheviks and Germans.

London, December 12.

That friction threatens to increase between the Bolsheviks and the Germans is indicated by the following telegram from the Petrograd Bolshevik Agency:—"The German Command on the Russo-German front protests by wireless against the dissemination by aeroplane of leaflets signed by M. Lenin and M. Trotsky addressed to workmen and soldiers, calling upon them to revolt. The German Generals consider this an intervention in the internal affairs of Germany. The Bolshevik organ Pravda replies by declaring that the Russian Delegation has not promised to pull down the Bolshevik flag. Statements in Herr Haase's speech on the occasion of an interpellation on the subject of demonstrations in honour of the Russian Revolution and general peace have raised doubts in Russian popular circles regarding the pacific intentions of the governing classes in Germany. The Russian Bourgeois Press is demanding offensive action and uses these statements as arguments against an armistice and peace."

The Fighting Between Russian Troops.

London, December 12.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd says that the recent fighting at Tamaroka was between detachments of shock battalions who declared against the Maximilians and local troops with sailors and Red Guards. Infantry and armoured cars were sent from Petrograd and troops from Har'koff. Fighting lasted all day and night. There were many casualties.

The Daily Chronicle correspondent at Petrograd states that the shock battalions numbered nine thousand, including Turcomans, regular cavalry, engineers and infantry. They left Mohileff when the Headquarters surrendered and were proceeding to the Caucasus by the last order of General Dukhobin when they encountered Maximilian troops near Bielgorod. General Krylenko arrived during the battle. The Railway Union states that the shock battalions were defeated, but Cossack reinforcements from General Kaledin are coming up.

Russian Demobilisation.

London, December 12.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, a semi-official German message states that Russian demobilisation has already begun.

A Maximilian Manifesto.

London, December 12.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd says the Maximilians have issued a manifesto to their "brother Cossacks" promising to hand over to them the estates of landowners and also to secure an immediate armistice and peace. The manifesto urges them to arrest General Kaledin, General Korniloff and their associates, and to hand them over to the Maximilians for public trial.

RUMANIA'S ARMISTICE.

London, December 12.

A Rumanian official message states:—"We have signed an armistice with the enemy."

RUMANIA'S GENERALISSIMO.

London, December 12.

The Times correspondent at Jassy states that General Prezan has been appointed Rumanian Generalissimo.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

Another Successful Raid.

London, December 12.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—"We successfully raided last night in the neighbourhood of Pontreux, to the north-west of St. Quentin. We repulsed a local attack to the north of La Vaqueiroe.

Heavy Firing Heard.

London, December 12.

Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters, writing under to-day's date, says:—"A comparative lull continues on the Cambrai front. Favoured by dry weather, both sides are busy digging, wiring and generally improving their respective positions. The sound of heavy firing comes from the vicinity of Bullecourt and Leguicourt, the significance of which it is at present impossible to state."

Another Aerial Raid.

London, December 12.

The Admiralty announces that naval aircraft on Monday night dropped many tons of bombs on Cossack aerodrome and on Bruges Dock. The results on the former were difficult to observe. A fire started at the latter. All our machines returned.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

ITALIAN NAVAL SUCCESS.

An Austrian Battleship Sunk.

London, December 12.

An Italian official message states:—"Our light craft on Sunday night, penetrating obstructions above and below water, entered Trieste and discharged four torpedoes against two warships of the Monarch class. All exploded. The battleship Wien was sunk. Our vessels returned safely, despite enemy torpedoing and intense fire."

PORTUGUESE PRESIDENT ARRESTED.

London, December 12.

Reuter's correspondent at Lisbon states that the President of Portugal has been arrested owing to his refusal to resign.

THE CAMBRAI SET-BACK.

Prompt and Searching Enquiry Urged.

London, December 12.

The Times urges a prompt and searching enquiry into the reversal of fortune in the Cambrai Battle. The paper says:—"Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig possesses the undiminished confidence of the Army and the nation, but his position largely depends on the choice of subordinates. His weakness, if it be a weakness, is in his inveterate devotion to those serving him longest—some perhaps have been serving too long."

MR. ASQUITH'S SPEECH.

General Praise by the Press.

London, December 12.

The interest with which Mr. Asquith's speech was awaited is reflected by the comments of the newspapers, which are relieved to find he has not supported Lord Lansdowne, though some take exception to his explanation of the latter's letter. The Times, which accuses Lord Lansdowne of deliberately stabbing the Government in the back, says it is glad that Mr. Asquith is firm against any temptation to support it. The Daily Chronicle says nobody who appreciated the straightness and consistency of Mr. Asquith's statesmanship could have expected a recantation of the principles he defined when he held office. The Daily News says that Mr. Asquith has given the most precise and considered declaration of war aims yet made by any European statesman. The Daily Telegraph remarks that the speech shows the resolution of the British people is utterly unmoved by the recent German military successes.

FALL OF JERUSALEM.

A Casting German Explanation.

London, December 12.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, a German semi-official message admits that the "evacuation" of Jerusalem was involuntary, but declares that the reason why the city fell was the Tabor-German desire to prevent "ground sacred to all God-fearing peoples from becoming the scene of bloody fighting." It adds that the town is militarily worthless.

General Allenby Enters the City.

London, December 12.

Reuter is officially informed that General Allenby entered Jerusalem yesterday.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Lloyd George read a telegram from General Allenby announcing that he entered Jerusalem on foot on the 11th instant. Guards had been placed round the Holy Places, while the Mosque of Omar had been placed under Mohammedan control.

A WARNING TO GERMANY.

London, December 12.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law warned our enemies that the longer the war lasted the less raw material would there be to go round, and as the Allies would help themselves first, the less there would be for Germany.

GERMAN AERIAL CLAIMS.

London, December 12.

A German official wireless message states:—"The enemy lost in November, 22 balloons and 205 aeroplanes, 85 of which fell behind our lines. We lost 60 aeroplanes and two balloons."

THE HALIFAX DISASTER.

London, December 12.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law announced that the Government had sent a message of sympathy to Halifax and had also made a gift of £1,000,000 to the Relief Fund.

JAPANESE TROOPS AT VLADIVOSTOCK.

London, December 12.

The Times correspondent at Washington says the Japanese Embassy confirms that Japanese troops have arrived at Vladivostock, reinforcing Japanese engineers who have been managing the port and trans-Siberian terminus for some time past.

GERMAN INTRIGUE IN MEXICO.

London, December 12.

German intrigue is rampant in Mexico. It is rumoured that General Carranza has sent three generals to seize the Tampico oilfields. This is causing anxiety in view of German activities.

MEAT SALE RESTRICTION.

London, December 12.

It is officially announced that Lord Rhonda has restricted the retail sale of meat for the four weeks ending January 13 to the sales for the four weeks prior to October 27.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

MR. ASQUITH'S IMPORTANT WAR SPEECH.

London, December 12.

Mr. Asquith, speaking at Birmingham, said: History would ask, was it worth Britain's while to enter the war? He answered undoubtingly and unhesitatingly yes, only provided the war ended in a peace securing the attainment in itself of the safeguards of its own permanence. Such a peace had become the world's supreme need and there was no greater enemy of humanity than anyone who by word or act made it more difficult to achieve. After affirming that he had nothing to take away from his recent speeches at Leeds and Liverpool regarding Britain's war aims and that President Wilson in his recent address to Congress had arrived by the same route at practically the same conclusion, Mr. Asquith referred to Lord Lansdowne's letter. He paid a tribute to Lord Lansdowne's patriotism. He declared that he had no more knowledge than any member of the Government of the letter until it was published and he had no responsibility whatever for its terms. He opined that much of the criticism of the letter arose from reading into it meanings and intentions which he did not understand it to convey. He thought that Lord Lansdowne's main argument was that the Allies, while warring vigorously, should endeavour to make it increasingly clear to the world that our war aims were rational and unselfish, that they were the aims for which we entered the war and that by the attainment thereof we were convinced that we might look for a durable peace, safeguarded by the conjoint authority of an international league.

In the words of President Wilson the aim was to bring into effective existence that partnership not merely of Governments but of peoples which must henceforth guarantee the world's peace. Even now there was abundant evidence that the enemy peoples were kept in the dark regarding our real purposes, both for war and peace. He would continue to do what he could to raise the veil and let in, if possible, some rays of light. (Cheers.)

Mr. Asquith recalled his declaration at the Guild Hall in November, 1914, that we would not sheathe the sword until the military domination of Prussia is wholly and finally destroyed. (Loud cheers.) He emphasised our agreement with President Wilson's declaration that nobody threatened the existence, independence and peaceful enterprise of Germany. Some of the Allies sought to prescribe an internal constitution and arrangements for the future of Germany. What we were concerned with was the system which enthroned force as the sovereign authority, which held itself free in pursuit of its supposed interests to falsify, distort or supersede, according to the exigencies of the hour, the most solemn pacts. This system must end. Germany must learn, as I believe she is learning, that as a matter of business, apart from sentiment and ethics, the system does not pay. (Loud cheers.) We do not have and do not desire to have any quarrel interminable and perpetual with the German nation. We acknowledge the contribution they have made, and we believe will continue to make, to the common stock of knowledge, research, invention and material and intellectual resources. But if there is to be a real enduring pact it must be something more than paper documents. Another misconception is that the Allies, especially Britain, are aiming at destruction for their own political and economic objects of what is vaguely called the freedom of the seas. In peace time the seas are open to the marine of all nations. What stipulation would Britain propose in the peace terms to curtail or fetter that immemorial right? That formula can only be used to indicate a new limitation in war time upon the belligerent rights of a Power which happens to command the sea. No corresponding limitation is suggested for a land war. Where existing conventions of the most solemn character have been systematically violated by the enemy it is worth considering whether something ought not to be done to secure freedom of the seas from the prosecution of a lawless and infamous submarine campaign with its ruthless sacrifice of innocent life. No peace will be worth the name which permits a veiled war to be carried on by other methods. He endorsed the words of President Wilson "to base peace on generosity and justice."

A FRENCH POLITICAL SENSATION.

Paris, December 12.

The Government has informed the Chamber that the Military Governor of Paris has requested the immediate withdrawal of M. Caillaux's parliamentary immunity. At the instance of the Military Governor of Paris the Chamber is considering the prosecution of ex-Premier Caillaux, who is accused of treason, dealings with the enemy and pacifist propaganda. A committee will be appointed to decide whether he shall be tried by court martial or the Senate. The Chamber is also considering the prosecution of Deputy Loustalot, who is accused of dealings with the enemy. It is alleged he met the ex-Khedive of Egypt in a neutral country.

THE FALL OF JERUSALEM.

London, December 12.

To-day's celebrations of the capture of Jerusalem included a Te Deum at St. Paul's Cathedral, which has never been so crowded at an unofficial service since the war began. A special service was held at Liverpool in the Central Synagogue and there was ringing of bells at the Roman Catholic Church at Taunton. A message from Amsterdam states that the "Kölnische Volkszeitung" admits that the capture of Jerusalem is a great moral British victory.

A CLASH IN RUSSIA.

London, December 12.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd, telegraphing last night, says the Military Revolutionary Committee has invited the people to demonstrate to-morrow with inflammatory watchwords.

The outlook is most ominous. The Maximilian organ "Pravda" announces that the first collision between the Maximilians and four thousand of General Korniloff's followers has taken place with machine guns near Bielgorod. No result is given.

It is stated that Black Sea naval detachments accompanied delegations sent to General Kaledin, who arrested one of the delegations. General Kaledin has issued a stern warning against the Black Sea naval men interfering with the autonomy of Cossack territories.

(Continued on page 8.)

THE ARMY'S JAM.

2,000,000lb. a Week for France.

Very nearly 2,000,000lb. of jam in paper tin containers are sent to France every week, and in April this year the Contracts Department had ordered 280,000,000lb. Twelve varieties are issued, among which strawberry, it is stated, largely preponderates. The soft fruit crop of 1914 was already on the market when the war began, and the jam manufacturers had to rely entirely on apple and stone fruit crops to meet the Government contracts. Hence the "plum and apple" of war notoriety. Last year Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa supplied 41,000,000lb. of jam, and it was thus possible to supply fresh jam at seasons when it could not be obtained at home. The daily ration at the front includes three ounces of jam. To enable this issue to be made the Army Contracts Department had up to the beginning of this year, purchased 167,000,000lb. of jam, and between one and two million pounds are being sent every week to the Army in France alone. More than half a million pounds of jam are sent weekly to the Army in France. Before the War Office became its own tea merchant single orders for a million pounds were no uncommon thing. The daily ration is just over half an ounce.

CANTON NEWS.

Our Canton correspondent writes under date of December 12 as follows:—

The Government has complied with the demands made by the C. M. S. S. Co. in regard to a. Kwong Lee, except that the charter money is reduced to Tia 2,000 daily, beginning on the 4th inst., and the cost of the ship increased to \$1,200,000. An official agreement has been sent to the branch office of the Company by the Tachun, who said that he did not know anything of the matter until he was notified.

An ultimatum has been despatched to the Tachun of Fokien by the Canton Government demanding that he shall take the same attitude as the other Southern Provinces, otherwise the Province will be over-run by the strong army of which Chan King-ming is the commander in chief.

Mok Wing-sun, the acting Tachun, has wired to Luk Wing-tung that mediation should be offered after the conquest of the northern army, for the conditions will then be dictated by the South.

It is reported that the reason why Chang Kai-yu desires to take his army back to Yunnan is that he has not been asked to take part in the Fokien expedition.

Almost one-half of the Yunnan troops in Canton, commanded by Fong Sing-to, has left for Chiu-shan, with 250 cases of cartridges, six machine guns and four 6.1d guns. The remainder will follow as soon as the necessary funds are obtained.

DONT FORGE.

TO-DAY.

Victoria Theatre—8.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—8.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinema—8.15 p.m.

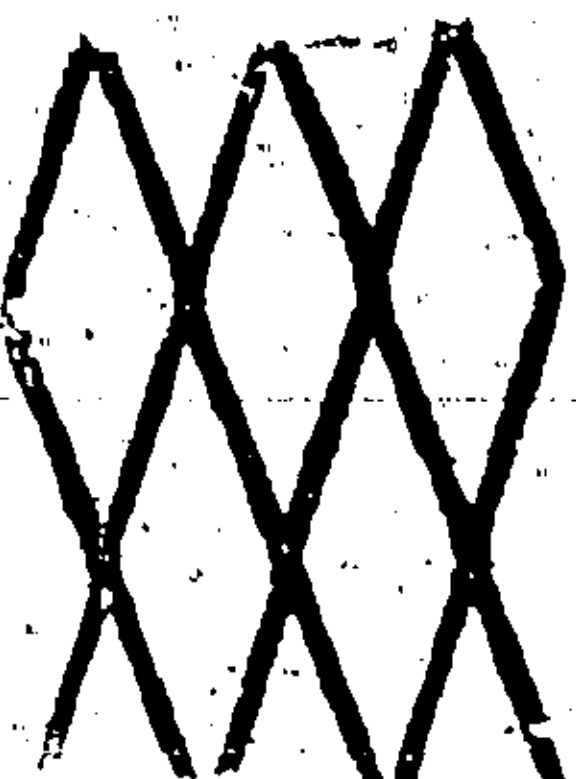
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Victoria Theatre—8.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—8.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinema—8.15 p.m.

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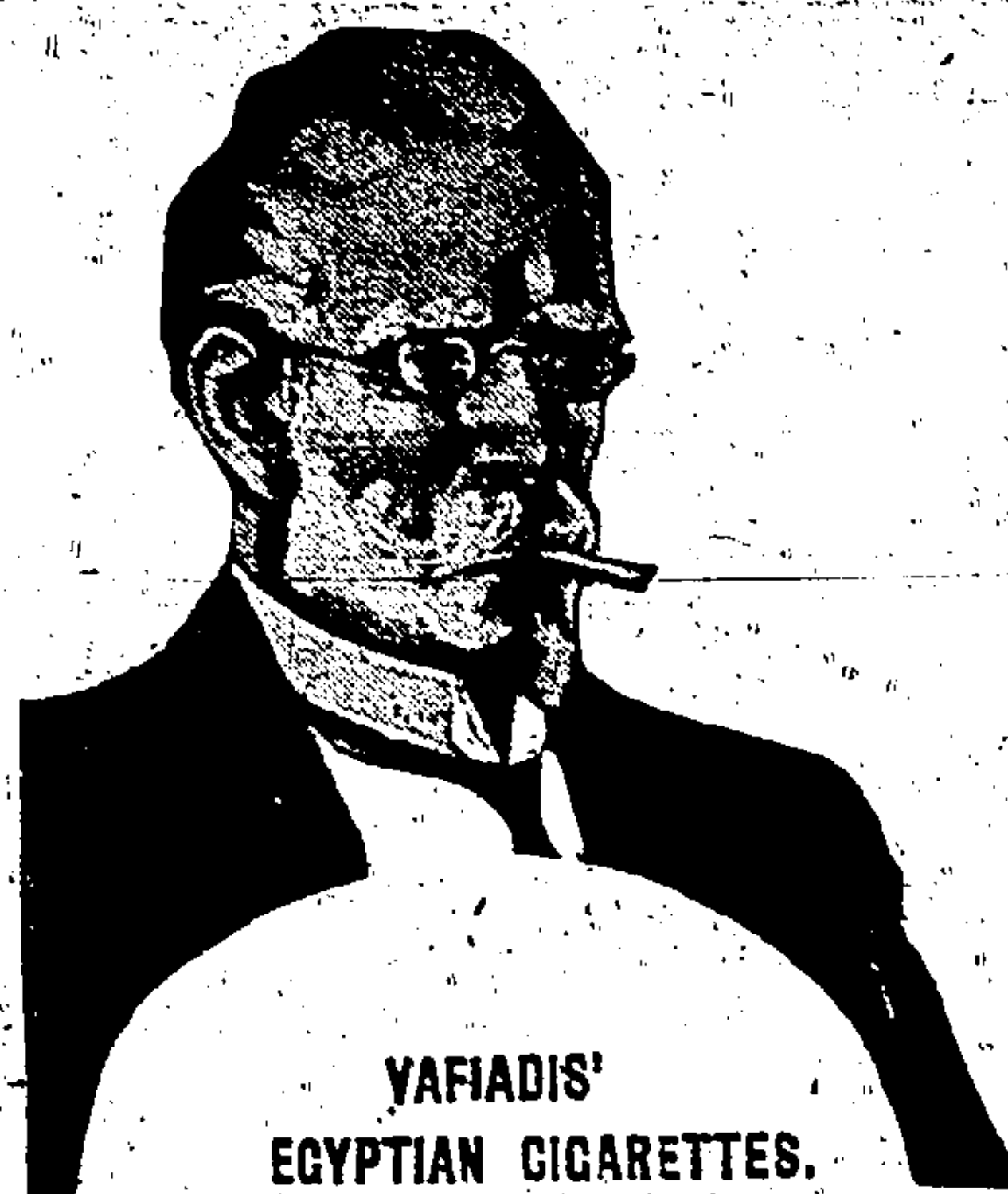
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"	20	.75
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GENERAL NEWS.

Gifts to the French Red Cross.

The London committee of the French Red Cross have received \$5,000 from M. Mrs. Klader, Peabody, and Co. New York, per Messrs. Baring Brothers, towards the Tuberculosis Hospital and Village Colony, which the committee are permanently endowing for French soldiers threatened with consumption; \$400 from Mr. George Copeland, of Roxbury, Ireland; and \$500 from the Morgan Crucible Company for the purchase and maintenance of a motor ambulance on the French front.

Government Purchase of Wool in South Africa.

At a representative meeting of the Natal Agricultural Union, which was attended also by East Griqualand delegates, a resolution was adopted, by 36 votes to 4, in favour of accepting Imperial Government's wool purchase offer. It was also decided that the Government should be urged to expedite matters. The speakers expressed the opinion that the offer was most liberal, and denounced any opposition to the purchase arising from political motives.

Two Thousand per cent. Interest.

At West London Police Court, before Mr. Rooth, Sarah Wheeler, Somerset-road, Acton, was fined \$5, and ordered to pay one guinea costs, for failing to register herself as a moneylender. It was stated that Wheeler used an hotel in Shepherd's Bush-road, in a very poor quarter, and sent her little boy to her women clients every week to collect the interest due to her. During the past six months she had lent small sums of money for which she had exacted in some instances nearly 2,000 per cent. interest.

School War Memorials.

At a meeting of Carthusians held at the old Charterhouse, the Master, the Rev. Gerald S. Davies, presiding, it was agreed to accept the Governors' proposal for a memorial fund to Carthusians who have fallen or taken part in the war. The fund is to be devoted to scholarships and a chapel at Godelming, providing more adequate accommodation for the largely increased number of boys. It was hoped to raise \$80,000, towards which \$7,000 has been promised and \$7,878 received. The Master said the Governors had arranged to found 10 war scholarships. A committee was appointed.

Denounced by British Unionists.

A Berne message says there was a stormy scene at the opening of the session of the International Trade Union Conference. The delegates from the central European nations occupied one side of the hall, and the empty chairs reserved for the delegates from the Allied countries occupied the other. A letter from Mr. Appleton, on behalf of British trade unionists, fell like a bomb on the gathering. In it, he denounced German barbarism, and said that British workers had refused to meet Germans. The anger of the latter was red hot, and they shouted: "The letter is full of lies."

Mr. William Hole, R.S.A.

Scottish art loses a conspicuous figure by the death, at the age of 70, of Mr. William Hole, R.S.A. Of English descent, his life centred in Edinburgh. He was educated at the Edinburgh Academy, and began life as a civil engineer. But his bent for art sent him to drawing schools and life classes. Figure subjects attracted him, and he possessed a vivid historical imagination, as witnessed by "The Struggle of the 45" and "The End of the 45," which portrayed Jacobite prisoners passing through a Highland village after Culloden. "News of Flodden" painted in 1883, is one of his best-known works. His full membership of the Royal Scottish Academy was achieved in 1889, and from 1892 he devoted much time to mural decoration, using public buildings in Edinburgh giving proof of his success in this branch of art. Not only his work as an etcher and book-illustrator be overlooked. It will be remembered pleasantly by many readers of the Standard and Barrie. Mr. Hole was a versatile craftsman.

GENERAL NEWS.

Dealermen's Rich Haul.
Dealermen, while trawling the forepart for fish on October 10 were surprised to find something very at the bottom. On hauling their nets ashore many were found to contain two and three barrels of wine. In all 20 barrels of wine, containing about 50 gallons of red and white wine, were recovered.

Cautious Objection.
A witness in a law court was being questioned as to his whereabouts during the past few years. "Where were you at the beginning of the year 1914?" asked the barter. "I was employed at certain works," was the reply, "but I agreed with the manager upon national, political and social issues." "Where were you immediately after that?" was the next question. "I became a tram driver," answered the witness, "but I disagreed with the authority the same national, political and social issues." The judge's countenance was aroused by this round answer, and he said, "Please tell the court what this national political and social issue is upon which you seem to have such decided opinions." "Prohibition" was the answer.

10,000 Indian Appeals.
The first of the recently appointed judges for Indian subjects would recently at the Old Bailey Mr. Bettsworth Piggott presiding. The first included some 10,000 cases, and the appellants, of an average age of 33, are engaged for the most part as tailors and assistants. The majority of appeals were dismissed, and some were allowed to make the necessary arrangements. When adjournments were granted the date was usually fixed March 1. The Tribunal dealt with 24 cases in an hour and a half. Ten exemptions were granted, three were adjourned, thirty appeals were dismissed, nearly 10,000 appeals remain to be heard.

First American Soldier to Win French Cross.
John McClellan son of a Glasgow father and a Dundee mother, is the first American soldier to win the French War Cross. He is a Paris correspondent. McClellan was with the first contingent of the American Expeditionary Corps, and he is doing service as a scout, opened a Y.M.C.A. camp near the American Camp the night of September 18th. German aeroplanes raided the village and dropped several bombs, one of which fell 50 feet from the camp, and which a number of men had gathered. McClellan threw the bomb, and threw to the river. The projectile added with mighty force just struck the water, but not without harm. McClellan escaped fragments by throwing himself upon the ground. Men in the despatches of the Army for the deed, McClellan just received the War Cross with palm.

Help for Small Traders Called to the Cease.
Mr. Hodge, Minister of Pensions, speaking at Birmingham, said that something had been done for the men who sacrificed small businesses, by small traders or shopkeepers been called to the Colonel their little bit of business result was ruined. When came back he thought it (be the duty of the Government to restart them. The Queen was much interested in this and he had had some conversations with her respecting it. Morning he was discussing matter with the Prime Minister, who was very sympathetic towards the ideas who had placed before him. As the question was one of it was necessary that he should the Chancellor of the Exchequer. At any rate, he had every that something would be done. Mr. Bonar Law, he knew, quite as sympathetic as Prime Minister was, and which alive to the necessities he (Mr. Hodge) was. In a week's time he was hopeful of being able to announce some steps for dealing with that problem.

NOTICES.

PIANOS

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FROM

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PER MONTH.

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MOUTRIE'S

Save Your Eyes

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EUROPEAN OPTICIAN
IN THE COLONY.

DOCTORS' PRESCRIPTIONS ACCURATELY FILLED.

N. LAZARUS,

OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN
26, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.GERMANY'S RUIN
COMPLETE.Noteworthy Lament by
Hamburg Merchant.

By telegram from Holland Reuter's Agency has received a summary of an article from a Hamburg merchant which appeared in the *Westfaelische Zeitung* a day or two ago. "We cannot close our eyes to the fact," he says, "that Great Britain has on the whole realized her war aims, and our brilliant military position should not blind us to the fact that our economic world position is getting worse. England's war aim was the destruction of our world position, and in this she has succeeded as none would have thought possible. Our shipping and world commerce are ruined. It will need years of industrious toil to build up our old position again. The German merchant, who goes out into the world after peace will find everywhere ruins and a spirit of hostility. The restoration of the colonies will not help much, as they only took a small fraction of our world commerce. Only the hopelessly blind can indulge in the hope that Great Britain will give up the economic war against us after peace. There is a big difference between Great Britain's position and ours. She can afford to renounce an indemnity, as her industry, commerce, and shipping have made large profits during the war, and grown rich at our expense. The future of the whole German people is at stake. If our enemies succeed in stifling our overseas trade for long, our industry and whole national economy are doomed. Our workers would be forced to emigrate owing to lack of work, we should not be able to keep up a big army or navy and we should be reduced to the second rank of Powers, having entirely lost Continental interests, and unable to compete with England in world-power and trade. No promise from Great Britain, no paper agreement can save us from this fate. We must hold out till our incomparable U-boats have beaten England to her knees."

GENERAL NEWS.

A Californian Benefactress.
Many a home in San Francisco was saddened on Oct. 22 when the news of the death of Mrs. M. F. De Young was published. Her works of benevolence and the large contributions which she has made for such purposes have helped scores of families and hundreds of individuals in time of need. She was one of the best known and best loved women of the city and probably of the state of California. Mrs. Young died after a long and serious illness.

Cold Storage Explosion in Liverpool.
At the Union Cold Storage in Williamson-square, Liverpool, an ammonia compressor engine exploded last week, says the *Weekly Times* of Oct. 19, causing some damage internally and considerable alarm in the streets. A window in a shop 50 yards away was smashed by flying debris, a stack of iron barrels weighing 50wt. each was blown down, and a scavenger who was sweeping the street was carried off his feet and dropped 50 yards away. No lives were lost.

NOTICES.

BANK HOLIDAY.

IN ACCORDANCE with Ordinance No. 5 of 1912 the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS on SATURDAY, the 15th instant.
Hongkong, 11th December, 1917.

HONGKONG GOVERNMENT
6% WAR LOAN, 1916.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that Scrip Certificates may now be exchanged for definitive Bonds. Scrip Certificates should be handed in at the Hongkong Office of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and Bonds of the same denomination will be issued in exchange.
E. D. G. WOLFE,
Colonial Treasurer.
Hongkong, 10th December, 1917.

Prepaid Advertisements.

ONE CENT PER WORD
FOR EACH INSERTION.

TO BE LET.

TO BE LET.—Godown No. 153, Praya East. (Possession from 1st January 1918). Apply Gaud, Price & Co., Ltd.

TO BE LET.—A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon. FOUR ROOMED-HOUSES in Kowloon.

Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD.,
Alexandra Buildings.

TO BE LET.—HOUSES on Shamoen, CANTON. OFFICES in York Buildings.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.

TO BE LET.

TO BE LET.—No. 25, Des Vieux Road, Central, 1st floor above the (Dragon Garage) suitable for OFFICES, etc.—Apply to Box No. 183, c/o "Hongkong Telegraph."

WANTED.

POSITION WANTED as NURSE or CHAMBERMAID, for the period of a journey to America, by a lady desirous of obtaining free passage from Hongkong to New York. Apply Box 1343 c/o "Hongkong Telegraph."

NOTICES.

4% FRENCH LOAN.
(Rent Perpetuelle 4%).

The BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE begs to announce that, to ensure the arrival of applications in Paris before December 16th, they will telegraph a first list of subscriptions from here on the 11th INSTANT.

Intending subscribers are therefore invited to apply without delay.

Issue Price: 68.60

All applications from Foreign Countries will be allotted in full.

Further particulars on application to the

BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE,

5, Chater Road.

NOTICES.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CONSOLIDATION ACT 1908,

IN THE MATTER OF THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

(In Liquidation).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a seventh and final return of Capital and Dividend at the rate of Forty Cents (Hong Kong Currency) per share will be paid on and after SATURDAY, the 22nd day of DECEMBER, 1917, at NOON to registered holders of A and B Shares upon application to:—

1. the "case of Shares on the London Register:—
Messrs. LOWE, BINGHAM & MATTHEWS,
Thornes Chambers,
Ingram Court,
167, Fenchurch Street, London E.C.

In the case of Shares on the Colonial (Hongkong) Register:—
Messrs. LOWE, BINGHAM & MATTHEWS,
Chartered Bank Building,
3, Queen's Road Central,
HONGKONG.

Share Certificates must be produced for endorsement.

A. R. LOWE,
Liquidator.
Hongkong, 8th November, 1917.

THE DAIRY FARM CO., LTD.

APPLICATION has been made to the Directors of this Company to issue to ADELINA O. DE GUTTIE-REZ of Hongkong a duplicate certificate of one share in this Company or other Certificate or Certificates in lieu thereof, on the statement that the original certificate for one share No. 7217 dated 26th October 1896 has been lost or destroyed. AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that if within 30 days from the date hereof no claim or representation in respect of such original certificate is made to the Directors they will proceed to deal with such application for certificate.

M. MANUK,

Secretary.

Dated 1st day of December, 1917.

NOTICES.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' (CONSOLIDATION ACT 1908)

AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION.)

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that a Final General Meeting of the above-named Company will be held at the Office of the Liquidator, Chartered Bank Building, 3, Queen's Road Central, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, on SATURDAY, 22nd December, 1917, at noon, precisely for the purpose of having the account of the Liquidator, showing the manner in which the winding-up has been conducted and the property of the Company disposed of, laid before such Meeting, and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Liquidator, and to pass his remuneration and also to pass the following Extraordinary Resolution, viz:—

"That the Books, Accounts and Documents of the Company and of the Liquidator thereof be retained by the Liquidator, he undertaking to destroy the same at the expiration of five years from the Dissolution of the Company."

A. R. LOWE, F.C.A.,
Liquidator.

Hongkong 8th November, 1917.

HIMROD'S

Gives Instant Relief.
No matter what your respiratory organs may be suffering from—whether ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, INFLUENZA, NASAL CATARRH, OR ORDINARY COUGH—you will find in this famous remedy a restorative power that is simply magical.
TAKED THE SURE CURE FOR ALL CASES OF ASTHMA.
CURE FOR ALL CASES OF ASTHMA.

FREE TO ALL SUFFERERS

Apply to HIMROD'S for a free trial of this famous remedy. It is the only remedy that gives instant relief to all cases of Asthma, Bronchitis, Influenza, Nasal Catarrh, or Ordinary Cough. It is the only remedy that is free to all sufferers. It is the only remedy that is free to all sufferers. It is the only remedy that is free to all sufferers.

NOTICES.

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LADIES DEPARTMENT
READY TO WEARCOATS & SKIRTS
- BLOUSES -
EVENING DRESSES.

LATEST NOVELTIES. MODERATE PRICES.

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SHAW'S

WOOL AND SILK MUFFLERS. LINED AND UNLINED CLOVES. DRESSING COWNS. WAISTCOATS. FLANNEL PYJAMAS. PURE WOOL UNDERWEAR. ETC., ETC.

J. T. SHAW

Tailor and Outfitter

NEXT DOOR TO THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

AUSTRALIAN

PRINCE BRAND.
THE BEST
OBTAINABLE.
PRINCE BRAND.
SECOND TO NONE

HAMS.

OBTAINABLE AT ALL THE LEADING COMPRADORES.

NOTICES.

THE HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA WAR SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.

APPLICATION forms for Membership of the above Association may be obtained from all the Banks or from the undersigned.

THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LTD.,
Honorary Secretaries & Treasurers.

Hongkong, 15th January, 1917.

NOTICES.

CAST IRON
RAINWATER PIPES
AND FITTINGS.
FRANK SMITH & CO.
6, DES VUEX ROAD, CENTRAL.
TEL. 2090. HONGKONG.

THE

LONDON DIRECTORY.

(Published Annually)

Enables traders throughout the World to communicate direct with English

MANUFACTURERS & DEALERS in each class of goods. Besides being complete commercial guide to London and its suburbs, the directory contains lists of EXPORT MERCHANTS with the Goods they ship, and the Colonies and Foreign Markets they supply.

STEAMSHIP LINES arranged under the Ports to which they sail, and indicating the approximate Sailing.

PROVINCIAL TRADE NOTICES of leading Manufacturers, Merchants, etc., in the principal provincial towns and industrial centres of the United Kingdom.

A copy of the current edition will be forwarded free of charge on receipt of Postal Order for 20s.

Dealers seeking Agencies can advertise their trade cards for 6s. 1, or larger advertisements from 12s.

THE LONDON DIRECTORY, 65, 175, 25, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C.

WINES AND SPIRITS

ASSORTED CASES FOR XMAS.

Case No. 1.—122.

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 3 Bot. St. Estephe Claret | 1 Bot. Superior Old Cognac |
| 2 Bot. Light Dry Sherry | 1 Very Old Liqueur Scotch |
| 2 Bot. Port Full Bodied | 1 Whisky "E" Quality |
| 2 Gin | 1 Dewar's Scotch Whisky |

Case No. 2.—128.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 Bot. St. Marceau Champagne | 1 Bot. Superior Old Liqueur Cognac |
| 1 Bot. Brandy Beane | 1 Very Old Liqueur Scotch |
| 3 Bot. St. Estephe Claret | 1 Whisky "E" Quality |
| 1 Bot. Light Dry Sherry Fandemonia | 1 Dewar's Scotch Whisky |
| 1 Bot. Port Superior Light Invalid | 1 Gin |
| | 1 Orange Curacao |

Case No. 3.—132.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Bot. St. Marceau Champagne | 1 Bot. Kitty Liqueur Whisky (Guaranteed 30 years old) |
| 1 Bot. Brandy Beane | 1 Very Old Liqueur Scotch |
| 3 Bot. St. Estephe Claret | 1 Whisky "E" Quality |
| 1 Bot. Light Dry Sherry Fandemonia | 1 Dewar's Scotch Whisky |
| 1 Bot. Port Superior Light Invalid | 1 Gin |
| | 1 Orange Curacao |

SPECIAL CASES PUT UP TO ORDER.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
Tel. 616.

Correspondents are requested to observe the rule which requires them to forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of their bona fides.

All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

Cable Address: Telegraph, Hongkong.

Telephone: No. 1 A.B.C., 5th edition. Western Union.
Office address: 11, Ice House St.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1917.

THE ARMISTICE NEGOTIATIONS.

It would appear that the negotiations for the purpose of effecting an armistice which the Maximalists have in the name of Russia, whom they do not represent—had the audacity to try to effect with the enemy, are still proceeding, despite the unpleasant setback which their delegates received on bringing forward their proposals at the first meeting. It will be remembered that the "pan-Russian" ideas aiming at, it was said, "a general democratic peace" were practically scoffed at by the enemy delegates, who evidently had made up their minds that, no matter what stratagems were held by the Maximalists, the negotiations making binding the temporary armistice to which they had agreed and the peace terms that would probably follow, would be of a decidedly practical character and such as would certainly not call for sacrifices from the Central Powers. It was plain that the enemy, knowing that he had the whip-hand, was quite prepared, if necessary, to show his simple-minded fellow-delegates that he intended to use the power he possessed to the fullest advantage, particularly as the Russians, in their chaotic state and owing to the undisciplined condition of their Army, were in no position either to enforce their demands or to retaliate if the enemy adopted aggressive tactics. Little or nothing of a definite nature was accomplished and the Maximalist proposal for an armistice on all fronts, including the interdiction of the despatch of forces from the Russian to other Allied fronts and the retirement of the Germans from Moon Island, were apparently received with as much indifference as doubtless with surprise, if not disdain. In fact, apart from the prolongation of the temporary armistice, nothing whatever was accomplished.

From a telegram to hand it now appears that in the negotiations the Maximalists have done something to astonish the enemy. According to a Berlin semi-official telegram, the Russian conditions were "astonishingly far-reaching, considering Russia's military situation." The significance of this statement is plain for all to see and besides it reveals, in all its deadliness, the sinister nature of the intentions of Germany in the negotiations. Of course her intentions were perfectly transparent to everyone except the purblind idealists who were attempting to do the impossible by endeavouring to arrange a Socialist peace with an autocratic State. The phrase "considering Russia's military situation," is certainly very illuminating; at any rate it should be so even to the befogged Maximalists, who seem still to cling to the idea that they will be able to negotiate such a peace as will be acceptable to Democrats and Autocrats alike. It will take people with much more mental stamina than the Maximalists are ever likely to possess to achieve the impossible.

The semi-official message above referred to does not equivocate. The Germans know what they want and, in the circumstances, they see no reason why they should not get it. They cynically point out the position that Russia is in militarily; and they know, as everybody else knows, except the stupid or misled Maximalists, that unless the Maximalist delegates were able to support their peace aspirations by military threats, nothing would avail in negotiations with Germany, whose own selfish desires can be overcome by force alone. It is therefore not surprising to read in the previous semi-official message that "Germany could not agree to evacuate the islands in the Gulf of Riga or withdraw troops from the Eastern front for six months." The remaining portion of the message makes it clear that Germany continues to delude the Maximalists. "However," it is stated, "after further discussion an agreement was reached, except on the question of the evacuation of the islands," which, the enemy cynically states, "admits of no discussion." The message concludes with the observation that "in the ten days' truce which was finally agreed upon we see good augury for the future." No doubt, there is to the enemy delegates, as it is quite evident that those posing as the representatives of Russia are being compelled to do precisely as Germany wishes.

A Foolish Policy.

Well-wishers of China are not a little concerned just now over a practise that will have little short of a disastrous economic effect in a few years to come, for, owing to high price of coal, it has become the rule rather than the exception for timber to be used for fuel in most of China's industrial concerns. Steamers plying between Hongkong and the West River, many of the machine shops in South China, together with most of the steam-using concerns are consuming wood in place of the coal formerly employed, and it needs little imagination to picture what the result of this will be. The little regard that the Chinese have had for the timber that still remains in the country has been proverbial and, with the new conditions brought about by the soaring price of coal, it can be safely said that the rate of deforestation has been increased in a measure that spells pollution for a great many districts. And the pity of it all is that China has coal beyond measure if she would only make it possible for it to be brought into the market.

Education Needed.

In Hongkong itself there are certain people who hold conceptions, and, if they were free to get straight to work, would confer a decided blessing upon the country. But restrictions abound and even the latest Mining Regulations framed at Peking form another hampering factor. Times without number China has been appealed to set her house in order in this most important respect, but so far without avail. Perhaps only when she realises that it is really against her best interests will she set, for it would seem that at present she is sceptical of all advice given. We realise that little has resulted from comment in the past, but there are times when one cannot help pointing out the urgency of a step that would not only be of benefit to China but to the whole of the world. If something could be done in the way of inducing the vernacular Press to push this subject and to educate the people up to the importance of the question, action might result. It is certainly high time that something was done.

The Freedom of the Seas.

In his important speech at Birmingham, Mr. Asquith touched on many points bearing on the war, none of which was more interesting than his reference to the bogey known as the Freedom of the Seas. This bogey, in one form or another, is constantly being held up by the enemy who, as Mr. Asquith says, is evidently under the misconception that the Allies, especially Great Britain, are aiming at the destruction, for their own political objects, of what is vaguely called the Freedom of the Seas. Time and again it has been pointed out that the seas to-day, as they have been in the past and as they will be in the future, are as free to any country's marine as they are to that of Great Britain. Various reasons have been assigned for the persistency of the enemy in referring to this point, and it has been naturally concluded that the only reason for the statement is that Great Britain still maintains supremacy of the seas in war time by virtue of the fact that her Navy is supreme. No nation in history has ever tampered with the freedom of the seas in the manner that Germany has done in her barbarous and marine campaign. What restrictions Great Britain and the Allies have found it necessary to enforce with regard to the seas are due solely to the exigencies of the war and they certainly have not been of the ruthless character of those adopted by Germany. As Mr. Asquith states, "in peace time the seas are open to the marine of all nations." What more can any nation expect than that? It is more than time that this absurd bogey were completely buried into oblivion.

A Treasonous Preacher.

Herbert Bigelow, head of the People's Church at Cincinnati, was kidnapped on Sunday night, Oct. 28, and whisked with a blacksnake in the Kentucky woods. Prior to a Socialist meeting in his church on the Sunday morning he had prayed for the repose of the soul of the Kaiser and of the "proud men surrounding him."

DAY BY DAY.

NOTHING CAN BE NATURE WHICH IS MONOTONOUS; NOTHING TRUE WHICH ONLY TELLS ONE STORY.—Ruskin.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the 22nd birthday of H.R.H. Prince Albert.

The Dollar.

The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 2s. 11.7/8d. The closing rate will be found on Page 1.

Nails.

A Chinese who was charged with being in unlawful possession of a quantity of nails told Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, that he picked the nails from among the sweepings on a ship which had left the harbour. Inspector O'Sullivan said they were all new nails. His Worship sent defendant to prison for a fortnight.

Alleged Spurious Optum Labels.

A Chinese was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, with having in his possession 12 l-bells resembling the optum labels issued by the Superintendent of Imports and Exports. Mr. M. K. Lo defended and Mr. Taylor, of the Imports and Exports Office, prosecuted. Mr. X-vier, manager of the Hongkong Press, gave evidence to the effect that he printed for the Superintendent of Imports and Exports labels used in connection with optum. The three labels produced were imitations. The case was adjourned, bail being fixed at \$2,000.

Union Church Guild.

A most interesting evening was spent at the Union Church Hall last evening, when, in connection with the Guild, Mrs. Macoschke read a paper on "Tennyson." She dealt particularly with the religious and meditative aspects of the great poet's works and repeated many of his best known poems extempore. The evening was made all the more enjoyable through the introduction of a number of musical settings to Tennyson's work. Mrs. David Wood singing "Crossing the Bar," and Miss McCubbin "Tears, Idle Tears." Another most enjoyable item was the quartette "Sweet and Low," sung by Mr. David Wood, Miss McCubbin, the Rev. J. K. Macoschke and Mr. Brown. Mr. O. C. Hickling read "The Ravens." At the close, Mrs. Macoschke was very heartily thanked for her most interesting paper.

POLICE RESERVE ORDERS.

Orders issued to-day by Mr. F. O. Jenkins, D.S.P. (R), state—

Musketry Course—Part I.
St. J. Inspectors Watt and Taylor, P.O. 703 Weiser, 672 Henderson, 757 Yvanovich, 648 Silas, and all members of N. 2 Platoon who have not yet fired, will attend the range on Sunday next, the 16th instant. Leave Blake Pier 9 a.m. sharp, returning about 1 p.m.

Chief Inspector Sirdar, Khan, Inspectors Alves, Silva Netto, O.M.S. Alves, Ribeiro and Botelho will attend as register-keepers.

Parades, Central 5.30 p.m.
Monday, December 17.—Nos. 3 and 4 Platoons (No. 2 Company).
Tuesday, December 18.—Nos. 5 and 6 Platoons (No. 2 Company).
Wednesday, December 19.—No. 2 Platoon.
Thursday, December 20.—No. 3 Company and Ambulance Platoon (under own Chief Inspector).
Friday, December 21.—No. 1 Platoon.

R.F.s of Nos. 1 and 2 Platoons will be inspected by the Musketry Officers immediately after the fall in and before roll-call.

Patrol Duties.

As from this date, Warning Officers will send all duty lists to this office, and not to the various Police Stations direct. Stations will be advised from this office only. This does not apply to Harbour Police.

A NEW STEAMER.

The "Sudhadib" Launched at Kowloon.

At Kowloon Docks yesterday afternoon, there was launched a new vessel for the Siam Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., Bangkok. As the vessel moved off, Mrs. R. M. Dyer gracefully performed the christening ceremony, naming the vessel "Sudhadib".

The dimensions and particulars of the vessel are as follows:—The Sudhadib is a steel single screw steamer of the sailing deck type, with raised fore deck, boat deck amidships and aft. Her principal dimensions are:—Length overall, 234 ft. 6 ins.; length B.P., 223 ft. 0 ins.; breadth moulded, 35 ft. 6 ins.; depth moulded to main deck, 13 ft. 0 ins. A cellular double bottom extends fore and aft, and is divided into six tanks, two for oil cargo, one for oil fuel and three for fresh water. The forward and after peak tanks are also used for fresh water. The cargo arrangements are most up-to-date, five derricks of 5 tons and 15 tons lift working the forward hold and tween deck, and two derricks of 2 tons lift the after hold. Two cargo doors and two cooling doors are fitted on each side in the tween deck. The auxiliary machinery consists of six steam winches, steam windlases, steam and hand steering gear, and a dynamo of twelve K.W., operating approximately 180 lights and 20 fans, on the double wire system. Provision is made in the tween deck for carrying 220 cattle, the stalls being of pine. Accommodation for 24 first-class passengers is provided in up-to-date cabins, the fittings being of oak. The saloon is handsomely furnished; small tables, overhead fans, large rectangular windows and double doors at front and sides, together with a skylight on boat deck, will ensure a cool and pleasant table. A cabin-de-luxe having all conveniences is situated on the after part of the mid-ship boat deck. The privacy of this suite of rooms will be specially attractive to the inter-continental business man. The Captain, engineers, and officers are well catered for in large and airy rooms on the navigating bridge and awning deck. The second Class and stewards are berthed in the fore-cabin, the seamen, firemen, oil-chew and kranies, tally clerks, and junior officers in a large house aft on the awning deck and in the after tween decks. The life saving appliances, tank life boats, &c., are as required by the Board of Trade for a first-class passenger certificate for about 500 saloon and deck passengers, and crew. The carrying capacity of the Sudhadib will be approximately 1,000 tons on the freeboard as awarded by Lloyd's, to which Society's Rules and Regulations for the highest class, 100 A1, the vessel has been constructed. The bale stowage provided in the holds and tween decks is 72,000 cubic feet.

The vessel will be propelled by one set of triple expansion surface condensing engines driving through forged steel shafting a bronze propeller. The cylinder dimensions are H.P. 17" dia., I.P. 27" dia., L.P. 44" dia., with a common stroke of 30", and the engines throughout are of the latest design. The auxiliary machinery comprises one Weir feed pump and Weir direct contact feed water heater working in conjunction with the feed pumps and feed water filter on the main engines; one large centrifugal pump for circulating water through the main condenser, one vertical duplex ballast pump, one vertical duplex donkey feed pump, and one vertical duplex pump for the oil service, steam and hand steering gear, and one steam-driven dynamo for supplying light throughout the whole ship, and all necessary connections for the efficient and economical handling of the engines are provided.

THE DEFENCE CORPS.

Useful Training in Camp.

Tanned faces, hands and knees, together with keen appetites, are commonly shared by the khaki and any who were sceptical as to the value of the Camp which members of the Hongkong Defence Corps have been holding in this picturesque part of the New Territory, only need to visit it to have all doubts dispelled. Our civilian soldiers have not been in camp for some time now and the value of getting away from office life, out into something approaching more campaign like conditions, has impressed itself upon all who have stayed at the canvas settlement.

Situated on rising ground, not far from the Sheung Shui River, the camp overlooks a stretch of valley and is in as healthy a spot as could be chosen anywhere in the locality. The long spell of dry weather caused the dust to be rather troublesome, until to-day, but, apart from this single drawback, all conditions, so far, have been well favoured. The cold snap has been, to say the very least, invigorating, and even the cause of some men making a mere pretence of washing. To rise from the cover of warm blankets and trot off to dive one's head into a bucket of water, with a strong cold wind blowing the while, has been a sore temptation to go unwashed.

As to the military benefit derived, members of the Corps know best. It is not possible here to refer to it, beyond saying that the work put in has been chosen to make the camp yield the best possible results and that the efficiency of the Corps has been greatly increased.

In the matter of food there has been a general consensus of opinion that under the circumstances it could not have been better. Three substantial hot meals a day are given and one is allowed to call for helpings ad lib. The treatment meted out to Oliver Twist finds no place at Lowe's, and although the quality has been extremely good, one was heard to say during the past week end "It's not quality one wants here, but quantity." And after a morning spent in the open air with vigorous exercise, that is abundantly true. The writer has seen men eat at breakfast what they would have normally made last all day.

Of course the canteen is a social centre. After dinner, served at 7.30 p.m., little groups, either playing bridge or chatting, gather round the tables and there is a wonderful esprit de corps manifest. The band of another unit plays cheerful tunes nearby and, although feeling tired by reason of the day's doings, most men are a little sorry when, at 9.30, the last bugle tells them that they are expected to go to bed.

The Ambulance Sections and the Field Hospital tent have been little needed, but the latter has been a boon to the campers for the treatment of minor ailments. Up to the time of writing there has been no serious case needing treatment, except a slight casualty more than a week ago.

There has not been a great many visitors to camp, though over the week-ends, when there are most men in, several have gone over. Camp life generally is happy and healthy, and it can definitely be said that, up to the present, the venture has proved a complete success.

Steam is generated in two single ended boilers 12'0" internal diameter by 10'6" long over end plates, constructed to British Board of Trade and Lloyd's requirements for working pressure of 180 lbs. per sq. inch. Each boiler has two large corrugated furnaces fitted with arrangements for burning oil fuel.

The speed trials will be progressive, and full speed, the latter of 6 hours' duration; a mean speed of 10.1/2 knots per hour is anticipated, the vessel carrying draft is guaranteed deadweight. A direction ship to the Sudhadib is the point of completion on the stocks, measures

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

The announcement of the birth of a daughter to the wife of Lieut.-Colonel Francis W. Irish is of special interest, not only from the fact that the mother, a little girl, was so well known as Dorothy Drew, the great-granddaughter of the late Mr. Gladstone, but because her father is the first and only great-grandson of the House of Commons. Of Mr. Gladstone's fourteen living grandchildren, only one, Mrs. Parish, is married, and her family now consists of two sons and a daughter who are thus Mr. Gladstone's only great-grandchildren. When her first son was born in 1913, Mrs. Alexandra stood as god-mother at the baptism.

Forster tells us that Henry Fielding Dickens, now appointed Common Serjeant and a member of the House of Commons, according to the originator, to have been obtained "Oliver Goldsmith Dick," the change being made "is kind of homage to the style cork he (the father) was now on beginning." (This wedding the inauguration of "David Copperfield.") But Dickens's all his sons "literary" names, the first was called Charles, afterwards Walter Landor, Frank J. Gray, Alfred Tennyson, Syd Smith, Henry Fielding, and Edward Bulwer Lytton.

The Cinema Common makes an unfortunate choice of words when it records the "adequate filming stories of acknowledged literary merit." Literary merit is, of course, the one quality of a book which is not capable of being reproduced on a screen; art cannot, in the nature of things, have any relation to the utility of a story for presentation in that form. Incident, pace, humour, dramatic power, all factors of prime importance in this connection, but whether the story is originally written in the style of Henry James or Nat Gould does not matter at

An ingenious rod of evading the law calling milk prices is being tried in the village of Lawtays a correspondent to a Hesper. The local Food Control Committee has fixed the reticence of milk inside the borough of Leigh at 5d., but in the district of Lawton the price is to exceed 5d., and so to go extra half-penny charges for the borough of their former rates in the village, carry this just over the boundary line Leigh, and there they retail the villagers, who are thus to purchase it in the borough are therefore liable to maximum rate. They have already the price or be without it.

A correspondent in a remote Scottish seaport (says the *Manchester Guardian*) to an experience that from to many of us—the old nerve or memory when one asks in the street for a direction, and gives a case (much) on the other side. The old fishing town, which is to be a centre for the Greenhaling trade, he met a grizzled old fisherman and asked him the way there. "Certainly, son," the ancient mariner, "straight course until you get to the two cross-roads, then away to the eastward; you come to another turn then alter your course to the left, and at the end of the road will find the Palace. You must not go about eight miles. Our correspondent says that there was no one about this direction, simply attempt to help him. And speed of 10.1/2 knots per hour is anticipated, the vessel carrying draft is guaranteed deadweight. A direction ship to the Sudhadib is the point of completion on the stocks, measures

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SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama...	Mishima Maru Capt. Nishimura T. 16,000	FRIDAY 14th Dec. at 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama...	Suwa Maru Capt. Sekine T. 21,000	SATUR. 15th Dec. at 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama...	Aisuta Maru Capt. Inadzu T. 16,000	SUN. 16th Dec. at 11 a.m.
NAGASAKI, Kobe and Yokohama...	Nikko Maru Capt. Takeda T. 9,600	FRI. 14th Dec. at 4 p.m.
Kobe and Yokohama...	Kirin Maru Capt. Sasagi T. 8,000	TUESDAY 18th Dec.

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All European Passengers, leaving the Colony for Straits Settlements, are required to produce on arrival at destination passports with their Photographs and description affixed thereto.

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SHIPPING NEWS.

Merchant Sailor's Income Tax.

As there appears to have been some doubt as to when the new concession granted to merchant seamen as regards income tax becomes operative, the secretary of the Imperial Merchant Service Guild having received many inquiries on the matter, has recently made inquiries from the Secretary of Inland Revenue, says the "Journal of Commerce" of September 15. The following reply has now been received:—"With reference to your letter of the 3rd instant, I am directed by the Board of Inland Revenue to acquaint you that proviso (b) to Section 11 of the Finance Act, 1917, extends the special privileges as regards income tax which are in force in the case of soldiers, sailors, and certain other persons, to any person who during the current income tax year, (i.e. the years beginning on the 6th April 1917) has served, or serves, for not less than three months, as master or a member of the crew of any ship or fishing boat." From the wording of the Act quoted, it will be seen that the extension of the privileges does not affect any year before that now current. It may be mentioned that this concession has been received with great gratification by merchant captains and officers, who have addressed many letters of congratulation to the Guild on their success in obtaining it through the Parliamentary Committee. The matter was first raised in the House of Commons in the early part of last year by Mr. Basil B. Peto, M.P. the chairman of their Parliamentary Committee. At that time the Government did not see their way clear to accept the proposition, but this year, when the matter was again raised by Mr. Peto, the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that he intended to accept the amendment of which notice had been given by Mr. Peto. It means, therefore, that the officers of our merchant ships now enjoy the same privileges in respect to reduced rates of income tax as in the case of officers serving in the Navy and Army. The Guild have been making further inquiries, and are now officially informed that the concession made is not retrospective, but applies to the "current income tax year," that is, the beginning on the 6th April last year and it applies to those who serve for not less than three months as master or a member of the crew of any ship or fishing boat.

Japanese Government's Attitude on Shipping.

As mentioned recently, (says the "Japan Chronicle") it is expected that as the result of the breaking-off of the negotiations with the American Government over the question of iron and tonnage, the Japanese authorities will modify their attitude in enforcing the Wartime Shipping Control Law. Hitherto their attitude has been practically prohibitive of the chartering or sale of Japanese vessels to foreigners and also of Japanese vessels being operated between foreign waters, however near Japan these may be. Even where permission was given, this was only after long delay. A noticeable change, however, has now occurred in this respect. Within two days in one case and three in the other of the date of application, the Government has granted permission for the operating of the Wabatsu-maru XIV. between Hongkong and Vladivostok, and of the Shunyo-maru (not the T.K.K. liner of the same name) between Canton, Hongkong, and Shanghai. Previous to this and to the rupture of the Japan-American negotiations, similar applications were practically shelved, if only temporarily. As a matter of fact, it was feared that much complicated trouble would arise between the owner, charterers, and sub-charterers of the Shunyo-maru as a result of the Government's refusal to permit or delay in permitting her being operated in the waters mentioned, — a circumstance which it was thought would be certain according to the precedents established since the promulgation of the Wartime Shipping Control Law. This fear has now proved unfounded, thanks, it is assumed, to the Japan-American negotiations having rendered it no longer necessary for the Japanese authorities to enforce the Shipping Control Law so strictly, or rather, prohibitively, as has hitherto been done.

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1)

ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

London, December 12. Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, reporting on aviation, says:—The enemy's machines were particularly active on Monday westward of Cambrai, repeatedly attacking our artillery and machines. Our machines dropped many bombs and fired many machine gun rounds at villages, hutments and trenches. Three German machines were brought down and two driven down. Three of ours are missing. Our machines in fine weather this morning started for the purpose of bombing certain factories in Germany but found their objectives were obscured by clouds. Seeing a clear gap further north-east they proceeded thither and recognised a large railway junction north-eastward of Pirmasels and bombed it. All returned.

The Sherwood Foresters made a successful raid in the afternoon westward of Hulluch, prisoners a number. A hostile raiding party was repulsed early in the morning southward of Arras.

A French communique says:—There is moderate reciprocal artillery activity on the greater part of the front.

PANAMA DECLARES WAR.

New York, December 12.

The Republic of Panama has declared war upon Austria-Hungary and the Austrians have been interned. The Canal zone is now cleared of Austrians and Germans.

FIGHTING THE U-BOAT.

Some Notable Incidents.

The records of the Admiralty necessarily contain some remarkable stories of the doings of our Navy in the present great war. Though these are generally of a nature which it has been thought undesirable to publish at the present time, still from time to time the Admiralty has found it of service to give publicity to some facts which it was believed could be made public without revealing anything that the enemy did not already know. Of this nature are the following half-dozen incidents which now see the light of day:—

A Race that Failed.

From one of our auxiliary naval forces a torpedo was seen approaching the starboard beam; it jumped out of the water when 100 yards off and struck the engine-room near the water line, making a large rent and flooding several compartments. The starboard lifeboat was blown into the air, pieces of it landing on the wireless aerial. Soon after, a periscope was observed just before the port beam; it turned and made for the ship, but quickly disappeared as the enemy further submerged. Again it appeared, to be followed this time by a conning tower. Fire was opened, and the first shot hit the base of the conning tower and two periscopes. Many hits were obtained, and the submarine quickly assumed a list to port, and several men came out of the hatch about the conning tower. He wallowed along for a space, stern almost submerged, and with oil squirting from his side, and the crew came on deck and waved their hands. At this sign of surrender "cease fire" was ordered, whereas he started to make off at a fair speed, evidently hoping to disappear in the misty weather. Fire was again opened; a loud explosion took place forward, and falling over on his side, the enemy sank—the last thing seen being the sharp bow, and up, slowly disappearing beneath the water. Two survivors were picked up. Our ship made harbour.

Well Hit.

One of our small craft sighted an enemy submarine at a distance of 10,000 yards. She maintained her course, and five minutes later the enemy stopped, and then proceeded towards her. Suddenly he submerged, and shortly after his periscope appeared close by on the starboard bow for a few seconds, and then disappeared. Helm was ported, and when over the position where the periscope had been seen an explosive charge was dropped; the ship circled round, and when in position once more dropped another charge. The explosion of this was followed after two or three seconds by another and much more violent explosion, which shook the vessel from stern to stern. The water became black over a very large area, and a considerable quantity of thick oil and float came to the surface.

Tracking the Tracker.

One of our submarines sighted an enemy submarine 1½ points off

the starboard bow, so dived, but after seeing him through the periscope for a few minutes lost sight of him. Our boat came to the surface again, and about three hours later saw the enemy on the starboard beam from two to three miles away. Our boat dived to attack, but the enemy altered course and was again lost to view. His apparent objective being conjectured, course was altered in the hope of cutting him off, and eventually he was again detected on the port bow, steering as had been surmised. Course was altered as necessary, and when as favourable a position as was thought possible was obtained, a torpedo was fired. A splash was observed in line with and close to his stern, and a few seconds after the enemy was seen with his stern out of water, smoke hanging round it, and the conning tower half submerged. A minute or two later he disappeared.

Seaplane v. Submarine. A seaplane proceeded to attack an enemy submarine which she had observed manoeuvring, apparently, into position to fire a torpedo at a passing merchant ship. Before the seaplane arrived over the submarine, the latter submerged, but three bombs were dropped on the position where he had disappeared from sight. In five minutes' time a large upheaval was noticed where the bombs had been dropped; this could best be compared to a huge bubble, rising some distance above the level of the sea and distinctly visible for a minute or more. There was no further sign of the submarine.

Good Work by Patrol Boats. A patrol vessel noticed a wake with a considerable amount of foam travelling almost parallel to her course on the bow a short distance away. She crossed this wake and dropped an explosive over it. Almost immediately a second charge was dropped, and after it had exploded another explosion took place. Oil and bubbles were coming to the surface, and on this spot a further charge was exploded. Two more patrol craft arrived on the scene and discharged their charges. The oil, which was still rising after an interval of twelve hours, was of heavy brown nature with a small like petrol.

Sunk by Gunfire. One of our naval forces bearing gunfire, steered for the position, and soon sighted an enemy submarine on the bow. Fire was opened and a hit obtained. A large explosion resulted, but the effects quickly dispersed to reveal no sign of the enemy, whose hull and conning tower were distinctly visible before.

Value of Guns on Merchant Ships.

Two submarines attacked a defensively armed merchant vessel. The first submarine fired a torpedo at close range, which missed, and the ship sank her by gun-fire. The second submarine then attacked the ship by gun-fire, but was damaged and driven off.

A defensively armed merchant vessel encountered a submarine, which endeavoured to attack at close range. The ship opened fire, hitting the submarine twice, and causing her to disappear vertically, the sea appearing to boil for a considerable time after.

PETITION FOR RELEASE.

Important Decision by the Chief Justice.

In the Supreme Court, this morning, the Chief Justice (Sir William Rees Davies) delivered his judgment on the petition of Li Hong-mi, who, under the Deportation Ordinance of 1917, asked for his immediate release. The Hon. Mr. E. E. Pollock, K.C., and Mr. G. O. Alabaster, instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Griest, appeared for the petitioner and the Attorney General, instructed by the Crown Solicitor, appeared on behalf of the Crown and the Captain Superintendent of Police.

His Lordship said:—The applicant was arrested under a warrant issued under the Deportation Ordinance 1917 and was admitted to bail by the Magistrate pending the consideration of his case by the Governor in Council. He comes before the Court on a petition asking for his discharge for reasons set out in extenso in the petition. This petition has been served on the Superintendent of the House of Detention, the applicant being, as he supposes, subject to his custody, and also on the Crown Solicitor. The Attorney General has appeared and has taken a preliminary objection to the petition, alleging that no such procedure as is raised by the petition is known to the law, and he claims that the petition is a nullity.

Now the applicant is on bail, and it is conceded that proceedings by Habeas Corpus are not applicable, the alleged illegal detention having ceased before the application for the writ could be made. It is also contended by the Counsel for the applicant that probably no other procedure is applicable, and that the Court has an inherent power to hear and determine the petition.

The only question now before us is whether the Court has jurisdiction to entertain the petition. The procedure adopted in Sprigg v. Sigee, 1897 A.C. 238, was relied on as a precedent. It was an appeal from the Supreme Court of Cape Colony which had ordered the imprisonment of the respondent under a Local Act. The procedure adopted was by petition to the Supreme Court of the Colony. There is nothing in the report to show why the procedure was by petition and it is probable that it was based on some local procedure. It appears however that the English Habeas Corpus Act was not in force there, nor any analogous local legislation.

It is contended on behalf of the applicant that remedy by petition is very general in our Courts, as in the case under the Companies Acts and in applications for probate, and presumably in Divorce proceedings. These matters are however regulated by Statute or by Rules expressly made under the Statutes creating them; and this statutory procedure cannot, I think, be called in aid unless it can be shown that the petition in question has some Statutory sanction.

It was further contended that on general principles both at Law and in equity there can be no right without a remedy and that as the usual procedure, e.g. Habeas Corpus and Mandamus, is inapplicable in the present circumstances the Court will exercise its inherent right to entertain the petition; being an ancient procedure known to the English Courts. Further, that the procedure anterior to the Judicature Act is expressly reserved by Ord. 1 rule 2, sec. 3 of the C.O.P. As to the latter contention, I may point out that the Reservation in Ord. 1 rule 2 is "subject to these Rules" and in sec. 3 of the Code. "The existing Jurisdiction or power of the Court" is subject to what is herein expressly enacted in that behalf" i.e. enacted in the Rules. Now the text books to which we were referred show that except with regard to Petitions of Right the Jurisdiction by petition is practically unknown in the King's Bench Division, and a reference to Archbold's Practice confirms it. It seems also that originating petitions in the Chancery Division are usually presented under the statutory Jurisdiction of the Court, as for instance, for a winding up

order under the Companies Acts, or for any other purpose under the numerous Acts of Parliament which provide for the exercise of the Jurisdiction of the Court by petition. This petition, save for the precedent of a Colonial Court, which in so far as this Court knows may be governed by some other Civil procedure, has I think no authority to support it. Whilst I agree that the Court should possess an inherent right to remedy any legal wrong, I know of no authority for the proposition that the Court to meet an individual instance will give effect to a procedure unauthorized either by Statute or definite legal precedent. In a matter where the Constitutional rights of the subject are concerned, I regret to arrive at a conclusion that may postpone a speedy decision on the merits of the application. To acquiesce, however, in the procedure relied on may create a precedent of far-reaching consequences in this Court.

The Attorney General stated at the outset of the argument that the Crown was quite ready to adopt a course, it is not necessary to specify it, which would found a right in the applicant to come to the Court on a writ of Habeas Corpus; and further that he would if desired expedite the matter so as to enable the application to be heard at an early date. If this course is adopted, the Jurisdiction of the Court cannot be questioned.

SOME RECIPES.

A Cinema Star's Hobby.

Mollie King, who is starring in Pathe's serial, "Mystery of the Double Cross," which is now being shown at the Victoria Theatre with great success, is a fine cook, particularly when it comes to making candy. In between scenes, she is kept busy making caramels, fudge and other delicacies for everyone in the studio. Here are some of her recipes:—

Stuffed Dates.—Take one pound of dates, remove stones and cover with wine, allow to stand one whole night and day, then take the dates and fill with almonds or any kind of nuts. Roll in powdered sugar.

Marshmallow Candy.—Four tablespoons gelatin, dissolved in 12 tablespoons cold water, 4 cups granulated sugar dissolved in 16 tablespoons water. Boil until it threads from spoon. Pour over gelatin and beat until rather stiff—about 30 minutes. Pour out one-half mixture and colour pink. Flavor with lemon. Pour white mixture in pan sprinkled with powdered sugar. Pour over this the pink mixture and let set three hours. Cut in squares and roll in powdered sugar. This makes a delicious and pretty candy.

Cherry Nougat.—Three cups granulated sugar, one-half cup strained honey, one-half cup water, one-half cup pistachio nuts (chopped). Boil sugar, water and honey till it spins a thread. Pour slowly over the stiffly beaten whites of two eggs. Beat till creamy. Stir in the nuts and cherries and add a few grates of nutmeg. Pour in a flat well-buttered dish. Just before cold, mark off in squares on top of which press half a cherry.

Marshmallow and Cherry Fudge.—One cup sugar, one tablespoon butter, one-half cup cream, one-quarter pound preserved cherries, one-quarter pound marshmallows and two squares chocolate. Put the sugar and cream in saucepan and stir until boiling, then add the chocolate and stir until melted. Boil until it forms a soft ball when tried in cold water. Add butter and remove from fire. Beat for 15 minutes and pour into a well-buttered tin, in which are the marshmallows and cherries cut small. Cut into squares.

Frappe Cream.—Whip one quart of cream, and add two tablespoons of sugar; add the whites of two eggs well beaten. Freeze without stirring, using one part salt to four of ice. Cut half pound of peaches; one bottle of maraschino cherries and half pound of marshmallows into fourths; add to cream just before serving. Serve in frappe cups lined with lady fingers and decorated with a cherry and green leaves cut from Angelica.

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HONGKONG DEFENCE CORPS.

Administrative Orders issued by Major H. A. Morgan, Administrative Commandant, state:—

Strength. Gunner T. M. Leitch was enrolled on 7.12.17 and posted to Artillery Coy. Sergt. A. Whitelaw, Engineer Company, is permitted to resign, on leaving the Colony, dated December 12, 1917.

Pte. E. F. O'Leary, "A" Coy., is permitted to resign, on recommendation of a Medical Board, dated December 6, 1917.

Pte. E. M. Haxland, "D" Coy., is permitted to resign, on recommendation of a Medical Board, dated December 11, 1917.

Transfer. Pte. W. J. Titcher, "B" Coy., is transferred to "D" Company, dated December 6, 1917.

Leave. Pte. P. D. Sutherland, "B" Coy., is granted extension of leave from 7.12.17 to 30.6.18.

Pte. S. H. Dodwell, "B" Coy., is granted 1 month's leave, from 12.12.17.

Camp. Reference Infantry Battalion orders dated 19.11.17, the special train will leave Kowloon on Friday, December 14, 1917, at 6.47 p.m. instead of at 6.25 p.m. A special Star Ferry will leave Hongkong for Kowloon at 6.29 p.m.

Roll. A copy of "D" Company roll, showing sections to which N.C.O.s and men are posted, has been issued to each N.C.O. and men in the Company. Anyone who has not received a copy should apply for one at the Orderly Room.

Artillery Parades. Orders for Artillery Company by Captain J. H. W. Armstrong, V.D., state:—

At Belcher's Battery. Monday, 17th instant.—7.30 a.m. Right Half Company, D.R.F. Class only. 5.15 p.m. Left Half Company, D.R.F. Class only.

Tuesday, 18th instant.—7.30 a.m. Right Half Company, Full parade. 5.15 p.m. Left Half Company, Full parade.

Thursday, 20th instant.—7.30 a.m. Right Half Company (Gun numbers other than specialists) 5.15 p.m. Left Half Company (Gun numbers other than specialists).

Friday, 21st instant.—7.30 a.m. Right Half Company Layers' and Setters' Class only. 5.15 p.m. Left Half Company Layers' and Setters' only.

Engineer Orders. Orders for Engineer Company by Captain W. Russell state:—

14th to 21st instant.—E. L. Manning nightly at Belcher's and Lyceum. Parades as per Rosters posted at Headquarters. Engine drivers at 5.15 p.m. Electricians at 5.30 p.m.

Officers next for duty.—Belcher, Captain W. Russell; Lyceum, Captain James; Stonecutters, Lieut. Stevenson.

Parades for Instruction.—Classes for higher ratings at Belcher's at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, and Thursday, under Staff Sergeants. Ordnance and Parsons, R.E. Corporal Day and 2nd Corporal Morris, R.E.D.C.

Detail of duties at Lyceum from 17th to 31st December, 1917, is posted at Headquarters.

Infantry Parades. Orders for Infantry Battalion by Major H. A. Morgan state:—

Parades for members of the Corps not in Camp on the dates mentioned:—

Monday, 17th instant.—5.10 Machine Gun Company, Nos. 1 and 2 Detachments, at Kowloon Dock. M.G. drill. Dress, Clean Fatigue.

Tuesday, 18th instant.—4.30 p.m. Mounted Section, Annual Musketry Course; Part 2, Practices 5, 6, 7 and 12, at King's Park Range. Dress, Drill order with pouches.

Wednesday, 19th instant.—4.30 p.m. Mounted Section, Annual Musketry Course, Part 2, Practices 8 and 9 at King's Park Range. Dress, Drill order with pouches.

Notice.—Only men who have completed Part 1, may fire Part 2.

RECRUITING. (Those not attending Camp only). Tuesday, 18th instant.—5.15 p.m. All units, except "D"

STOLEN CAT.

Chinese Well Punished for Cruelty.

A cat, a cage and a formidable trap figured as the chief exhibits in a case at the Police Court this morning, when a Chinese was charged with stealing a cat. During the proceedings the animal "meowed" plaintively, the trap having broken its leg. The cat was caught in Belcher Street.

Defendant said he was a wild cat catcher, but did not catch very many. He did not know that the cat was a tame one. Inspector O'Sullivan said there might be some wild cats on the hillside, but there would be none near Belcher.

His Worship:—Do you know you have broken the poor animal's leg?

Defendant retorted impudently that of course the leg was broken, the cat having been caught in the trap.

His Worship said he would sentence him to receive a sound flogging if only he had the power to do so.

Defendant said that complainant beat him when he got hold of him.

His Worship said that the case was one of theft and was aggravated by the fact that defendant had used an infernal trap, which was nothing more than an instrument of torture. He would go to prison for three months.

CRICKET.

Hongkong Cricket Club v. University.

The following will represent the Club in the above friendly game on the Club ground on Saturday, 15th inst., commencing at 12 noon:—G. E. Aubrey, Capt. Dewar, B. N. F. W. S. Evans, Capt. E. H. Gray, H. E. Holland, F. Jacks, M. M. Mass, Major Mayhew, Lieut. McConnell, Lieut. H. E. Murray, and F. Syme Thomson.

K. C. C. v. C. R. C. These teams meet in a League match on Saturday at Causeway Bay at 2 p.m. The Kowloon team will be:—J. P. Robinson, P. H. Cobb, R. Pestonji, A. A. Claxton, F. Wheeler, L. E. S. Hodges, L. J. Blackburn, F. E. Joeland, A. de Souza, J. Stalker and R. E. Lindell.

Company, at Headquarters, under O. S. M. Wichele, Sergt. Orberry and Corporal Grimes. Dress, Drill order. Quarry Bay residents, at Tai Koo Dock.

"D" Company. Tuesday, 18th instant.—5.15 p.m. Nos. 2 and 3 Sections at Headquarters, under O. S. M. Cooke and Lance Sergt. Edmonds and Meade. Musketry instruction. Dress, Drill order with pouches.

Thursday, 20th instant.—4.30 p.m. Recruits (joined since 1.9.17) at Kennedy Road Range. Musketry instruction, Grouping with miniature ammunition. Dress, Drill order without rifles. Lance Sergt. Edmonds and Meade will attend.

Friday, 21st instant.—5.15 p.m. No. 4 Section, at Headquarters, under O. S. M. Cooke and Lance Sergt. Edmonds. Musketry instruction. Dress, Drill order with pouches.

Cadet Orders. Orders for Cadet Company by 2nd Lieut. J. E. W. Beard state:—

Monday, 17th instant.—5.15 p.m. Nos. 1 and 2 Sections at Headquarters. 5.30 p.m. Baglers, at Headquarters.

Wednesday, 19th instant.—5.15 p.m. Nos. 3 and 4 Sections, at Yau Ma Tei Football Ground. 5.30 p.m. Baglers, at Yau Ma Tei Football Ground. 6.30 p.m. Gymnasium, at St. Andrew's Church Hall.

Notice.—Sergeants' Mess.—The quarterly meeting of the members of the Sergeants' Mess will be held in the Mess Room at 6.45 p.m. on Wednesday, 2nd January, 1918. Every member is particularly requested to attend.

A HARBOUR COLLISION.

Enquiry at the Police Court.

At the Police Court this afternoon, Mr. J. R. Wood held an enquiry into the circumstances surrounding the death of a woman, who, with two others, was drowned on November 21. The deceased woman was on a sampan which, it was stated, did not have a warning light, the consequence being that a collision took place between the sampan and a steam launch, the woman and others being thrown into the water and drowned.

The interests of the coxswain and the owners of the launch were watched by Mr. C. E. H. Beavis.

The body of the deceased woman was identified by the husband, who said his wife was 28 years of age. He heard of the drowning the following morning.

The coxswain of the boat said his vessel left Hongkong at 7 p.m. The night was rather dark, and the wind very cold. He had on board 40 or 50 passengers, and he had nine men as crew. On entering the Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter he proceeded at quarter speed and about a hundred feet away saw a black object. There were no lights being carried. He tried to keep away by turning the launch to the port side. He did not notice whether the object was moving or not. After turning and going some 20 or 30 feet nearer, he discovered the object was a boat, but there was no time to avoid a collision. Even had he been going faster a collision was inevitable. The launch struck the boat, and he ordered the seamen to assist the occupants of the boat. He was able to stop the launch a little time after he struck the boat. His boys were thrown over but no one was saved. Just before the collision, occurred he heard voices crying out "Save life!"

His Worship said that he was of opinion that the crew of the launch were blameless, and the collision was a pure accident.

Football Match. The Hongkong Defence Corps will meet the Middlesex Battalion on the Club ground on Saturday at 4 p.m., and will be represented by:—Goldenberg, Oave and Mc. Cabbins; Chasseles, Stewart and Rodger; Wood, Gerrard, Irving, McTavish and Railton.

A Warning. We are asked to state that an Indian is going about among business firms saying that he is authorized to collect money for sports to be given in aid of wounded soldiers at the Front, on Boxing Day, by Queen's College on their ground at Causeway Bay. The youth is an impostor, and should be handed over to the Police if caught.

United States Dollar at Eighty-Three Cents.

Says a Copenhagen despatch of October 28:—American exchange is at low figures and at such a level of little value owing to inability to use exchange for making purchases from the United States. It was quoted yesterday at eighty three cents for the dollar. With the checking of exports by the United States under its embargo, the demand for foreign exchange with that country has practically come to an end in Denmark.

Practical Joke on London Police. Some time ago a mysterious tin was discovered by the Hampstead police, and it was alleged to contain German explosives and poison. It has now been discovered that a practical joke was played on the police. After a thorough examination at the contents of various samples of the supposed "deadly" beef, the Home Office analyst came to the conclusion that all the tins were composed of nothing more harmful than "wholesome bully beef," and there was not the slightest reason to suppose that German agents had been secretly operating in the vicinity of Hampstead.

Golofina

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SMOKE
of
CONNOISSEURS.
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PERFECTOS
SOLD EVERYWHERE.

HIGHEST
GRADE
JAMAICA
LEAF.
TRY
BOUQUETS.

“PERFECTO”
Actual Size.

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS ISSUED BY
BRITISH-AMERICAN TOBACCO CO., LTD.

POST OFFICE.

Saturday the 15th December being a General Holiday, the Post Office will be open from 8 to 9 a.m. There will be no delivery of ordinary correspondence and no collection of letters from the pillar boxes.

The Money Order Office will be entirely closed.

The Parcel Post Service to British East Africa and Egypt (except for members of the Expeditionary Forces) and to the Expeditionary Forces, French, Italian, Russian, and American, will be suspended.

On and after the 1st October, 1917, the rate of postage on letters from Hongkong to Fataha, Chan Chuen, and Whampoa will be 4 cents for each ounce or fraction thereof.

Correspondence addressed to enemy subjects in China, Siam, Siberia and Portuguese East Africa, Persia and Mesopotamia cannot be transmitted.

The Services to Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire are suspended.

Uninsured parcels for the United Kingdom will in future be forwarded from Hongkong in bags and the Public are therefore advised to pack such parcels very carefully.

Letters franked at the 4 cents rate addressed to Yunnan and Meigao and other places in the Province of Yunnan should be superscribed with the words “For delivery by the Chinese Post Office.”

Parcels for Greece cannot be accepted for transmission unless accompanied by a special permit issued by the British Minister at Athens.

Arrangements have been made for the transmission of parcels to the United Kingdom via Canada.

The rates of postage are as follows: Parcel not over 3 lbs. 80 cents. Do. 7 lbs. \$1.80. Do. 11 lbs. 2.70.

No insurance can be effected on parcels sent by this route.

IMPORT PROHIBITIONS.

The public are informed that the undomesticated articles are prohibited from importation into the United Kingdom, either by letter post or by parcel post.

Gold manufactured or unmanufactured including gold coin and articles consisting partly of or containing gold; All manufactures of Silver other than silver watches and silver watch cases; Jewellery of any description.

Letters and Parcels containing such articles cannot therefore be accepted for transmission by the Post Office.

The Parcel Post service to Aden (except in respect of parcels for military and naval addresses) has been suspended.

FRENCH PARCEL REGULATIONS.

The Public are informed that the new regulations adopted by the French Customs in respect of parcels addressed to France, Corsica and Algeria must be filled in the columns of the regular Customs Declaration, particularly and exactly, omitting none of the headings comprised therein.

It is furthermore absolutely necessary to show in the aforesaid declaration (1) The full name and address of the addressee; (2) A statement as to whether the contents are intended for State supplies or not.

LOCAL AND REGULAR MAILS OUTWARD.

Tai O.—Week days, 5 p.m.
Tai Po.—Week days, 10 a.m.; Sundays, 9.30 a.m.
Cheung Chow.—Week days, 7.30 a.m. and 3 p.m.
Shataukok, Shatin and Sheungshui.—Week days, 4 p.m.
Aberdeen, Aukau, Ping Shan, Sai Kung, San Tin and Stanley.—Week days, 4.30 p.m.
Canton, Samshui, and Wanchow.—Week days, 7.30 a.m.; Registration 5 p.m.; Letters 6 p.m.; Sundays, 5 p.m.
Macao.—Week days, 7.15 a.m., 1.30 p.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m.
Kowloon.—Week days, 6 p.m.; Except Saturdays; Sundays, 5 p.m.
Amoy and Swatow.—Week days, 5 p.m.; Sundays, 5 p.m.
Shamshui.—Week days, 10 a.m., 4 p.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m.

FROM SHEUNGWAN WESTERN BRANCH P.O.

Macao.—Week days, 7.30 a.m., 1.30 p.m.; Sundays, 8.30 a.m.; Holidays, 7.30 a.m., 1.30 p.m.
Canton.—Week days, 7.30 a.m., 9.30 a.m.; Sundays, 9.30 a.m.; Holidays, 7.30 a.m., 9.30 p.m.
Tai Ping Tung.—Week days, 9.30 a.m.; Sundays, 9.30 p.m.; Holidays, 9.30 p.m.
Shek Koi.—Week days, 9.30 a.m.; Sundays, 9.30 p.m.; Holidays, 9.30 p.m.
Kowloon.—Week days, 6 p.m.; Sundays, 6 p.m.; Holidays, 6 p.m.
Kunming.—Week days, 6 p.m.; Sundays, 6 p.m.; Holidays, 6 p.m.
Kaukung.—Week days, 6 p.m.; Except Saturdays; Sundays, 6 p.m.; Holidays, 6 p.m.

NOTICES.

WAI KEE.

FLAG & SAILMAKER
No. 129, Des Voeux Road Central.
Top Floor,
HONGKONG.
Telephone No. 1833

ASAHI BEER.



HONGKONG SHARE REPORT.

S.—SELLERS; SA.—SALES;
B.—BUYERS; N.—NOMINAL.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

BANKS.	
M. K. & S. Banks sa.	\$800
MARINE INSURANCES.	
Cantons a.	\$308
North China b.	t. 115
Unions b.	\$730
Yangtzes n. ex 73	\$2 5
FIRE INSURANCES.	
China Fires b.	\$121
H. K. Fires n.	\$310
SHIPPING.	
Douglases s.	\$73
Steamboats s.	\$18
Indos (Def.) b.	\$1471
Indos (Pref.) b.	\$35
Shells b.	112/
Ferries n.	\$281
REFINERIES.	
Sugars b. & sa.	\$391
Malabars ss.	\$36
MINING.	
Kailans s.	40/
Langkats n.	t. 15
Raubs n.	\$2.50
Tronohis n.	26/
Urals n.	30/
Oriental Cons. n.	28/
DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, &C.	
H. K. Wharves b.	\$3 4
Kowloon Docks n.	\$12 1
Shai Docks b.	t. 73
LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.	
Centrals b.	\$200
H. K. Hotels b.	\$80
Land Invest. sa.	\$53
H. phreys Est. n.	\$534
K'loon Lands n.	\$30
Shai Lands b.	t. 70
West Points n.	\$81
Reclamations n.	\$115
COTTON MILLS.	
Ewos b.	t. 1781
Kung Yiks b.	t. 15.80
Shai Cottons n.	t. 120
Yangtzepeos b.	t. 6.80
Oriental s.	t. 40
MISCELLANEOUS.	
Borneos b.	\$61
China Light & P. b.	\$43
Providents b.	\$71
Dairy Farms b.	\$25
Green Islands sa.	\$7.50
H. K. Islands b.	\$48
H. K. Electric b.	\$150
H. K. Ice Co. n.	\$291
Ropes s.	\$10
Steel Foundries n.	\$61
Trams, Low Level s.	\$34
Trams, Peak, old s.	\$34
Trams, Peak, new s.	cts. 90
Laundries b.	\$3
U. Waterboats b.	\$12
Watsons n.	\$3.50
Wm. Powells s.	\$6.50
Morning Posts n.	\$29

Corrected to noon Thursday December 13, 1917.

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WEATHER REPORT.

December 13d, 12h, 10m.—No returns from Japan and Indo-China. Pressure has decreased slightly around the Formosa Channel, and increased slightly to moderately elsewhere; it apparently remains highest over Korea.

Hongkong Rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 1.01 inch. Total since January 1st 50.37 inches against an average of 57.45 inches.

FORECAST FOR THE 24 HOURS ENDING AT NOON TO-MORROW.

Station.	Forecast.
1. Hongkong to Gap Rock.	E. winds; moderate; cloudy; rain.
2. Formosa Channel.	N. winds; moderate.
3. South coast of China between H.K. and Lamook.	The same as No. 1.
4. South coast of China between H.K. and Hainan.	The same as No. 1.

China Coast Meteorological Register, December 13, a.m.

December 13, a.m.						
Station.	Hour.	Barometer.	Temperature.	Humidity.	Winds. } m. } s.	Weather.